THE COMIC READER

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MAR. 1973

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PRINT RUN THIS ISSUE: 2,250 copies.

CIRCULATION OF #93 (Jan.): 1,950.

DC
Strange SPORTS
20¢
STORIES
WHY DID THE DEVIL CHALLENGE A WORLD SERIES TEAM TO A GAME OF BASEBALL?
WHAT WAS THE SECRET OF THE ODD LITTLE MAN WHO ALWAYS BOWLED PERFECT 300 GAMES?

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NATIONAL

The papers creating the Metropolis Recreation Association have been assigned and "The Amazing World Of Superman" is on its way.

The town of Metropolis, Illinois will be marketing a special mag of that name early this summer, as well as launching a number of permanent projects within the town, like a Superman museum. The Amazing World of Superman Metropolis Edition will be 10½" x 14", 64 pages, black and white with wash throughout and color covers and Map of Krypton centerspread, and $2. I believe that it will only be available from the MRA that I mentioned above. The book includes a new version of the origin story, and many special features. I'll let you know how to get copies as soon as I can.

* * *

The Shadow has been scheduled for early July. It'll be a bi-monthly magazine. Also scheduled for the month of July are the first issues of Black Magic and Champion Sports. Both are Joe Simon edited.

Simon takes over the editorial chores on Young Romance and Young Love as of the issues on sale in August and July, respectively. He is doing longer stories on different types of themes.

Simon's code number or letter is JS, for those of you who are complete maniacs.

* * *

The $1 edition of Shazam will be on sale in late May, not April. In order to give it the right publicity build-up, the book was held off. Features include:

"Sivana's Time Trap" a Captain Marvel story in which Sivana goes back to a time before Billy met Shazam to pull a con act.

"The Training Of Mary Marvel", her second appearance.

A Mac Raboy Captain Marvel Jr. story.

A Mr. Tawney story by C.C. Beck.

"The Primate Plot", a Schaffenberger story in which the Marvel Family gets turned into monkeys.

Capt. Marvel in "The Missing Red Suit."

A Beck interview, a "how to draw" page, a back-cover diorama, a double page pin-up, and some fun pages.

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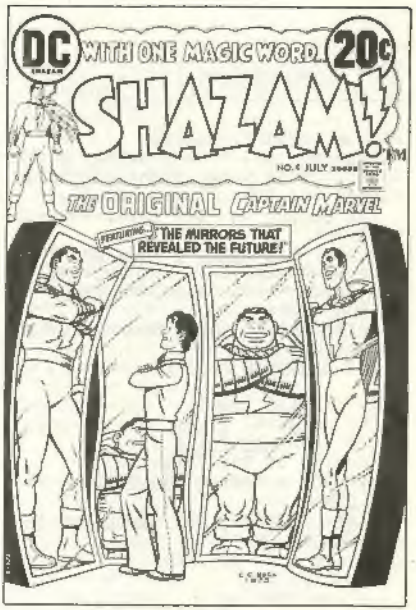

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Gerry Talaoc will be filling in for Jim Aparo on The Phantom Stranger for a while. As soon as Jim gets ahead of schedule on Brave & Bold and Detective Comics, he should be back. Gerry starts with #27, the same issue that Arnold Drake takes over the scripting. And just to prove that I'm not trying to suppress Steve Skeates news (inside joke, folks), I'll mention that he's taking over The Spawn Of Frankenstein with that issue.

* * *

Howie Chaykin has dropped Sword of Sorcery. #4 will be his last issue.

* * *

Denny O'Neil's first issue of Dark Mansion is #13.

* * *

Plop will be featuring a new type of Alcala art, a light humorous style.

100 PAGE SUPER SPECTACULAR 100 NEWS:

#21, a SUPERBOY issue:
Superboy in: "The Superboy Revenge Squad," "The Super-Giant Of Smallville" and "The Miracle Plane."
The Legion in "The Super-Moby-Dick Of Space."
Robin, Kid Flash & Aqualad in "The 1,001 Dooms Of Mr. Twister", the story which began the Teen Titans concept.
Supergirl in "Lena Thorul, Jungle Princess."
Kid Eternity vs. "The Beagle".

#22, a FLASH issue:
The original Flash in a 40-page story from All-Flash #13.
"Secret Of The Three Super-Weapons", a modern Flash story with Kid Flash.
Plus, probably The Elongated Man and Johnny Quick.

* * *

John Warner has written a Haunted Tank story.

* * *

Secret Origins #5 will feature a book-length classic -- the origin of The Spectre from More Fun #52 & 53 by Jerry Siegel & Bernard Bailey.

* * *

The apprenticeship program rolls along nicely. Comic book fan Carl Gafford (editor of Minotaur, contributer to many other zines) is the latest apprentice. The other apprentice in the office is Allen Milgrom, who assists Murphy Anderson and other regular NPP artists.

Those of you who are interested in getting apprenticeships, remember that you can submit portfolios to NPP editors at this year's New York Comic Art Convention in July.

* * *

A possibility exists of a revival of the Challengers Of The Unknown. Reaction to the reprint title appears to have been good.

According to the grapevine NPP's new offices (first mentioned here in TCR over a year ago) are almost ready and they'll be moving cross-town early this summer.

* * *

Adventure Comics dept: Captain Fear will appear in at least two more issues, as those stories are complete. Joe Orlando is looking into a few very interesting series ideas right now, and I'll let you know when he makes a decision. All of them are very much "fan-feedback" ideas. Deadman may be postponed a while, to give The Black Orchid a few more trial issues.

* * *

There will be no back-up in Brave & Bold. Editor Murray Boltinoff has decided to keep the magazine book-length.

* * *

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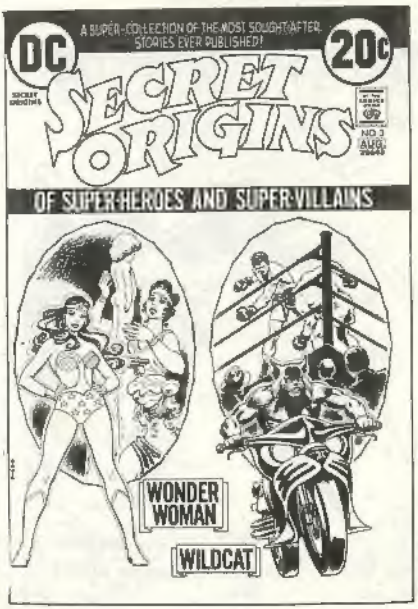

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MARVEL

SAVAGE TALES will return this summer, on a bi-monthly schedule. 20 to 25 pages of each issue will be devoted to Conan. The other original features are not set yet. The book will have the same physical make-up as the other Marvel black & whites, with some text features and reprints. No photo intro pages though.

Roy Thomas and Barry Smith are contributing an adaptation of Howard's "Red Nails" for the first two issues. (That's the 40 page story that I mentioned previously.) Barry Smith will do most of the Conan stories, if not all. "Red Nails" comes from Conan The Warrior, the seventh book in Howard's series.

* * *

Now some news about the four-color version of Conan. To wind up the adaptations from Howard's first volume, Roy Thomas has plotted "The City Of Skulls" and "The Hand Of Nergal." Neal Adams is scheduled to do the first one as a fill-in issue and John Buscema will do the second. Both will be inked by Ernie Chua.

Speaking of Neal, he finally handed in "The Origin Of Dracula" for Dracula Lives! #2, and only a few centuries late. It is, however, one of his most spectacular art jobs and was well worth the wait. He inked it himself, and most of the job is in wash.

* * *

Esteban Maroto will reportedly be working exclusively for the Marvel black and white line in the future. He may do a Red Sonja series, presumably for Savage Tales (you must remember her from Conan) and he has been assigned a Dracula story.

* * *

STRANGE TALES is going to be a new, monthly Marvel title. It will feature a new character entitled Brother Voodoo by Len Wein and Gene Colan. The numbering will probably begin from #169, picking up where the old Strange Tales left off and ignoring the Dr. Strange sequence.

* * *

GHOST RIDER rides out of Marvel Spotlight this summer into a new monthly magazine of his own, by Gary Friedrich and Tom Sutton.

Spotlight will be taken over by a new series entitled "The Mark Of Satan" about the son of Satan and a mortal woman. Script by Gary Friedrich with no artist set yet.

* * *

Sometime next year Marvel is planning to unleash a new slick magazine of satire. No details yet, because the project is so far in the future but from what I heard it's going to be very interesting.

* * *

Tony Isabella is now the associate editor on Monster Madness and is primarily responsible for the 50% of the mag that is devoted to articles. Tony's also the new scripter on Doc Savage.

* * *

A new Marvel reprint title will be launched in May...Marvel Spectacular featuring Thor. It will be eight times a year.

* * *

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As I mentioned last issue, a number of Marvel books will go to 7 or 8 times a year in order to be monthly during the summer. This applies to about eight or ten reprint titles, The Defenders (which may remain monthly) and Marvel Premiere with Doctor Strange. Fear with The Man-Thing is going monthly.

* * *

Marvel's "female" line has been folded, barring surprises. Night Nurse, Shanna, and The Cat are all cancelled.

* * *

Outlaw Kid will still be published, but beginning with#17 it will be reprint again.

* * *

Material scheduled for the now-cancelled Spoof mag will appear in Crazy: one story per issue.

Herb Trimpe is the new artist on War of the Worlds. Don McGregor the new scripter (after one Marv Wolfman issue)...Marv Wolfman is the new writer on Werewolf By Night and coincidentally says that he has loads of plot ideas for a wolfman comic. I wonder why?..Len Wein is the new scripter on The Defenders and Marvel Team-Up while Mike Friedrich takes over Marvel Feature with the second Thing team-up issue...Ross Andru is the new artist on King Kull, which will now be a 15-page strip backed up by a sword & sorcery reprint...Roy Thomas or Gerry Conway will write Kull, no decision yet..There will be a new artist on Werewolf By Night because Ploog is taking on more commercial art assignments. Ploog continues on Frankenstein as a labor of love...Kelly Freas did the cover for Haunt Of Horror #2.

* * *

Vampire Tales' regular feature will be Morbius, of Spider-Man and Marvel Team-Up fame. Script by Steve Gerber and art by Pablo Marcos. Monsters Unleashed will feature The Man-Thing, scripted by Tony Isabella. MU #2 will reprint The Man-Thing story from Savage Tales #1.

* * *

Over in the adaptations corner, Supernatural Thrillers #5 will feature The Living Mummy by Steve Gerber and Rich Buckler. Worlds Unknown #3 features "Farewell To The Master" by Harry Bates, adapted by Roy Thomas, Ross Andru and Wayne Howard. The story was the basis for the movie "The Day The Earth Stood Still."

* * *

VAMPIRE TALES #1 will feature a Roy Thomas-Win Mortimer story about "The Vampyre" which is based on the first vampire story. Plus a story by Gardner Fox and a new artist named Bernet, who is British. An Esteban Maroto cover surrounds the issue.

* * *

Wayne Howard may ink King Kull.

DC COMING COMICS

COMING COMICS is a directory of upcoming releases from the various comic art publishers. The "on sale" dates are those used by the publishers oron production schedules and may vary in your area, depending on the perversions of your local wholesaler. The following is the format of each listing:

TITLE (Number, cover date). A description of the contents, including all available information. Credits for the feature: writer, artist, inker, colorist as known. (On sale date).

Titles of features are underlined.

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OUR ARMY AT WAR (258, July). Sgt. Rock's pacific odyssey continues in the story of "The Survivor". Script by Robert Kanigher, art by Russ Heath. Plus the crew of the USS Stevens in the story of "The Kiyi". Script and art by Sam Glanzman. Cover by Joe Kubert. (4/3)

GHOSTS (16, July). In this issue: "The Mothball Ghost" (by Sam Glanzman), "Death's Grinning Face", "The Haunted Hero -- St. Helena" and a text feature: "The Man Who Spoke With Specters". (4/3)

WEIRD WORLDS (6, August). John Carter Of Mars travels "Beneath The Omean Sea" this issue in a story by Marv Wolfman and Sal Amendola. David Innes "Returns To Pellucidar" and changes his costume this time. Script by Denny O'Neil and art by Dan Green. Cover by Mike Kaluta, printed in TCR #94. (4/3)

JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA (106, August). T.O.Morrow, the man who created The Red Tornado, returns to menace the JLA again in "Wolf In The Fold!" Script by Len Wein, art by Dick Dillin & Dick Giordano. (4/3)

* * *

YOUNG ROMANCE (194, August). (4/5)

WEIRD WESTERN TALES (18, August). Jonah Hex stars in "The Hoax", a book-length story. John Albano script, and some exceptional Tony DeZuniga art. This is the full book promised to offset the issue without Jonah Hex, not the first of the regular full-lengthers. (4/5)

THE SWAMP THING (5, August). The Swamp Thing turns to far-out fantasy this month as he encounters "The Last Of The Ravenwind Witches" in a book-length story by Len Wein and Berni Wrightson. (4/5)

SECRET ORIGINS (3, August). An all-Golden Age issue this time, as the origins of Wonder Woman and Wildcat are hauled out of the files. The first story is from Wonder Woman #1, the second from Sensation Comics #1. Cover by Nick Cardy. (4/5)

SUPERMAN (265, July). It's time for a book-length change of pace as Elliot Maggin, Curt Swan & Murphy Anderson contribute "The Attack By The Army Of Tomorrow", the story of a group of mutants with two thumbs who gain strange powers when they snap them together. Cover by Nick Cardy. (4/5)

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G.I. COMBAT (162, July). The latest story of The Haunted Tank concludes with "The Final Victor" by Archie Goodwin and Sam Glanzman. Bob Kanigher's Gallery Of War is represented by "Mayday", with art by Mike Sekowsky. Plus a Warrior feature on Pershing by Sam Glanzman. (4/10)

THE WITCHING HOUR (32, July). In this issue: "What Evil Haunts This House?", "Too Young To Die", and "Name Your Poison". (4/10)

KAMANDI (7, July). Meet a giant gorilla named Tiny, who's a bit more intelligent than beasts used to be, but is a lot dumber than they are in Kamandi's time. So he becomes the god of the gorilla people, and eventually plays King Kong to Kamandi's Fay Wray. Script & pencils by Jack Kirby, inks by Mike Royer. (4/10)

FROM BEYOND THE UNKNOWN (23, August). Enter the world of the Space Museum, beginning this issue. "The World Of Doomed Spacemen" (from Strange Adventures #104) by Gardner Fox, Mike Sekowsky & Bernard Sachs. Plus "The Secret Of The Man-Ape", the story of 3 old novels which contain a secret plan to rule the world by Otto Binder, Carmine Infantino & Joe Giella. "The Language Master Of Space" is by Gardner Fox & Sid Greene. (4/10)

* * *

THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES (4, August). The last reprint issue is the only one edited by Nelson Bridwell. "The Weirdo Legionnaire" comes from Adventure #341. Plus Tommy Tomorrow in "The Forbidden Robots". (4/13)

DC SUPER-SPECTACULAR (18, July). SUPERMAN celebrates his 35th Anniversary with a collection of tales selected by Nelson Bridwell. From the Golden Age, Superman in "I Sustain The Wings", a tale written by Mort Weisinger while he was in the army. It's the only time Clark Kent ever appeared in uniform. Plus a 50s story: "Superboy's Last Day In Smallville" and a 60s classic: "The Story Of Superman-Red & Superman-Blue." Art by Swan & Klien with Schaffenberger. TNT stars in "The Crime Clown", his first story from World's Finest #5. Hourman in an untitled story from Adventure #57. The modern Atom in "Lock-Up In A Lethal Lightbulb" and his Golden Age counterpart in "Murder On A Star" from Flash #90. Plus Captain Triumph in a story from Crack #42. (4/12)

LOIS LANE (132, July). Lois Lane meets "The Second Superman". Plus Zatanna in "The Boy Who Never Smiled" and introducing a new star of the newsroom in her own strip -- "Melba". (4/12)

HOUSE OF MYSTERY (215, July). In this issue: "The Man Who Wanted Power Over Women", "Your Corpse Shall I Carve" and "Brain Food". (4/12)

SECRETS OF SINISTER HOUSE (12, July). In this issue: "A Very Cold Guy", "The Ultimate Horror" and "August Heat", an Ambrose Bierce adaptation by Nelson Bridwell and Alfred Alcala. (4/12)

* * *

WORLD'S FINEST COMICS (218, August). Superman and Batman try to find out "Who Killed Capricorn?" in a story scripted by Bob Haney with art by Dick Dillin and Dave Cockrum. Plus Metamorpho in "The Haunted Millionaire" by Bob Haney and John Calnan. (4/17)

SHAZAM! (4, July). Golden age fans will remember "IBAC The Cursed", the man whose name spells terror. Denny O'Neil & C.C. Beck bring him back for another fight with the good Captain this month. Plus "The Mirrors That Reveal The Future" a funhouse story. Script by Elliot Maggin, art by C.C. Beck. From the 40s comes the story of "The Ownerless Diamond". Cover by C.C. Beck. (4/17)

WEIRD WAR TALES (15, July). In this issue: "Ace King Just Flew In From Hell" by Arnold Drake & Don Perlin, "The Survivor", and "The Ultimate Weapon" by Alcala. (4/17)

BATMAN (250, July). A three story special, for the first time since Julie Schwartz took over Batman almost ten years ago. "The Deadly Numbers Game": takes the Batman into a mysterious wax museum. Script by Frank Robbins, art by Irv Novick & Dick Giordano. "The Batman Nobody Knows" is a special story by Frank Robbins and Dick Giordano. Plus Robin in "The Return Of The Flying Grayson" by Elliot Maggin, Irv Novick & Frank McLaughlin. Cover by Dick Giordano. (4/17)

* * *

GIRLS' LOVE STORIES (178, August). (4/19)

SUPERBOY (196, July). Superbaby in "Big Race For A Mini-Hero". Superboy in "The Living Ghost" and "Superboy's First Mission". Scripts by Leo Dorfman, art by Bob Brown & Vince Colletta. (4/19)

FOUR STAR BATTLE TALES (3, August). The War That Time Forgot presents "The Island Of Armored Giants" by Andru & Esposito. Plus "A Stripe For Sgt. Lo" (Drucker art) and "Cliff Hanger" (Andru & Esposito). (4/19)

THE UNEXPECTED (148, July). "Baby Wants Me Dead" (George Kashdan & Lee Elias), "A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Morgue" (Carl Wessler and Rico Rival) and "A Night In A Madhouse" (Carl Wessler and Bernard Bailey, back from the Golden Age with a vastly improved art style). (4/19)

THE DC FLASH
CO-STARRING
GREEN LANTERN
20c
THE FLASH
NO. 222
AUG.
C'MON, READERS! I NEED YOUR HELP!
MY POWER RINGS NEEDS THE WILL POWER OF EVERYONE OUT THERE TO STOP FLASH FROM KILLING US ALL!

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SWORD OF SORCERY (3, August). Fafhrd and The Gray Mouser ride into an original adventure -- "Betrayal" in this issue. Script by Denny O'Neil, art by Howie Chaykin and practically everyone else in the business. About half the inking is by Berni Wrightson. (4/19)

* * *

THE FLASH (222, August). The Flash and Green Lantern join forces for a book-length epic -- "The Heart That Attacked The Earth" that's jammed with aliens, Rogue's Gallery villains and more. Script by Cary Bates, art by Irv Novick and Frank McLaughlin (with Dick Giordano). (4/26)

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HOUSE OF SECRETS (109, July). In this issue: "Museum Of Nightmares" and "In Death There Is No Escape". (4/26)

JOHNNY THUNDER (3, August). Last issue. Two Johnny Thunder stories: "The Real Johnny Thunder"(Toth & Barry) and "The Secret Of The Outlaw Timepiece" plus a Nighthawk story by Mort Drucker & Sy Barry. (4/26)

THE DEMON (10, July). The Demon must battle another demon in his quest to save Glenda from The Phantom Of The Sewers. This concluding chapter is by Jack Kirby and Mike Royer. (4/26)

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METAL MEN (44, August). "The Rain Of The Missle Men" from #1 is reprinted in the last issue. Script by Kanigher & art by Andru and Esposito. (4/28)

STAR SPANGLED WAR STORIES (171, July). The Unknown Soldier is assigned to rescue or eliminate the man who trained him. "Appointment In Prague" includes a retelling of the origin. Script by Archie Goodwin, art by Jack Sparling. Two Glanzman stories are in this issue also: "First" and DD779 in "Who To Believe". (4/28)

ADVENTURE COMICS (428, August). Meet The Black Orchid, a mysterious lady whose profession is that of a super-heroine. She begins a trilogy of adventures with her origin, a story told by Shelly Mayer and Tony DeZuniga. Plus, from the inventory of The Phantom Stranger mag, Doctor 13 in "Ghosts On The Glass" by Steve Skeates and Tony DeZuniga. (4/26)

TARZAN OF THE APES (221, July). "Return To The Primitive", part three of "The Return Of Tarzan", brings the ape-man back to the jungles of Africa. It's an 18-pager by Kubert. Plus a 3 page Foster reprint arranged by Allan Asherman. (4/26)

ACTION COMICS (425, July). A triple treat as Action begins a short series of 3-stories-per-issue issues. Superman in the story of"The Last Moa On Earth" by Cary Bates and Curt Swan. The Human Target begins a two-part adventure with "The-Short-Walk-To-Disaster Contract" by Len Wein and Dick Giordano. The Atom meets "The 13 Old Men Who Run The World" in a story by Elliot Maggin and Dick Dillin. (4/26)

These books feature a Behind The Scenes on the apprenticeship program. The last few books may contain a Direct Currents listing. D.C. starts on a regular basis next month.

MARVEL COMICS GROUP.

Coming Comics

DAREDEVIL (101, July). "Vengeance In The Sky With Diamonds" is this month's story of DD and The Black Widow. Script by Steve Gerber, art by Rich Buckler and Frank Giacoia. (4/3)

INCREDIBLE HULK (165, July). This month, the wrap-up of the Captain Omen saga with the Hulk becoming a god-figure on the Infra-World and leading a revolt against Omen's autocratic authority. Author Steve Englehart feels that it is his best Hulk to date. Art by Herb Trimpe and Sal Trapani. (4/3)

KID COLT OUTLAW (172, July). (4/3)

IRON MAN (60, July). The return of an old Daredevil villain -- The Masked Marauder. Meanwhile a rift is developing between Pepper and Happy Hogan. Script by Mike Friedrich, art by George Tuska, Mike Esposito and Frank Giacoia. (4/3)

JUNGLE ACTION (5, July). The Black Panther becomes the star of Jungle Action with this issue. To begin his solo series, "The Monarch And The Man-Ape" is reprinted from Avengers #62, by Roy Thomas and John Buscema. (4/3, postponed from 3/27)

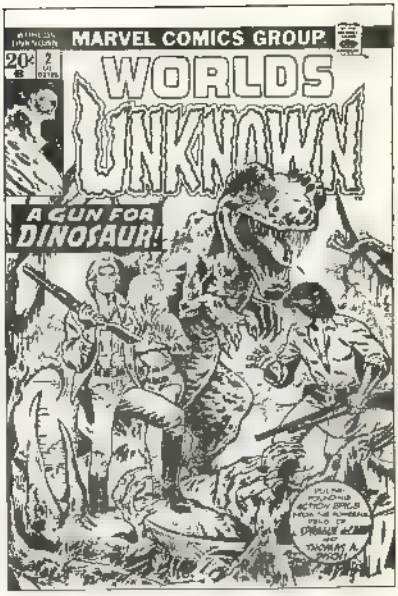
WHERE MONSTERS DWELL (22, July). (4/3)

MARVEL SUPER-HEROES (37, July). The Hulk in "The Battle Cry Of Boomerang" (with script by Stan Lee, art by Jack Kirby and Bill Everett) from Tales To Astonish #82. I'm not sure of the Sub-Mariner reprint, but it might be "The Power Of Iron Man" from the same issue, by Stan Lee, Roy Thomas, Gene Colan, Jack Kirby and Dick Ayers.(4/3)

MIGHTY MARVEL WESTERN (25, July). The Rawhide Kid, The Two-Gun Kid and Kid Colt, Outlaw. (4/3)

WAR IS HELL (4, July). (4/3)

WESTERN GUNFIGHTERS (16, July). The Black Rider, The Apache Kid and Matt Slade, Gunfighter. (4/3)



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WORLDS UNKNOWN (2, July). "A Gun For Dinosaur" is the lead story, an L. Sprague DeCamp adaptation by Roy Thomas and Val Mayerik. Plus a Thomas Disch adaptation--"Doorstep" by Gerry Conway and Gil Kane. The cover is printed above. (4/3)

* * *

TALES OF THE ZOMBIE (1, 75¢). The Zombie lives(?) in three stories in this issue: "Altar Of The Damned" (script by Steve Gerber, layouts by John Buscema, art by Tom Palmer) which tells about his birth in New Orleans; "Zombie" (a fifties classic which introduced the character) by Stan Lee and Bill Everett; and "The Night Of The Walking Dead" in which he visits a modern metropolis (script by Steve Gerber, layouts by John Buscema, finished art by Syd Shores). Plus "The Thing From The Bog" by Kitty Pearson, Marv Wolfman and Pablo Marcos, reprints by Dick Ayers and Tom Sutton, a text feature by Tony Isabella, and some photo-intros. Cover by Boris Vallejo. (4/5)

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MONSTER MADNESS (3, 60¢). Now 50% movie reviews, articles, and features. Material in this issue by: Don McGregor, Tony Isabella (movie reviews), Allen Asherman, Gary Gerani, Dave Cockrum (Creature From The Black Lagoon), Jeff Wasserman, Herb Trimpe (Wendigo), Isabella again (Robert Bloch), Chris Claremont, Mike Ploog (Werewolf By Night), and Stan Lee (50% of the mag remains photo-gags). (4/5)

* * *

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (122, July). It's "The Green Goblin's Last Stand" this month, in a slightly surprising story by Gerry Conway, Gil Kane and John Romita. (4/10)

CAPTAIN AMERICA (163, July). Cap tries to help Peggy adjust to her new world, and one of the first people they meet is a young man who was just released from the POW camps, and who is now a Conscientious Objector. Plus the Serpent Squad -- The Eel, The Viper, and The Human Cobra. Script by Steve Englehart, art by Sal Buscema and John Verpoorten. (4/10)

TWO GUN KID (111, July). (4/10)

BEWARE (3, July). (4/10)

SPECIAL MARVEL EDITION (11, July). Sgt. Fury and The Howlers meet Captain America and Bucky in a classic story from Fury #13, by Stan Lee, Jack Kirby and Dick Ayers. (4/10)

CRYPT OF SHADOWS(4, July). (4/10)

CHAMBER OF CHILLS (5, July). "The Devil's Dowry" by Larry Leiber, "A Tomb By Any Other Name" by Don McGregor and Syd Shores, and "Haunt And Run", Tony Isabella's first story, illoed by Paul Reinman. (4/10)

SUB-MARINER (63, July). The saga of Dr. Hydro winds up this issue in a story by Steve Gerber and Sam Kweskin. Plus the second installment of Tales Of Atlantis by Steve Gerber and Howie Chaykin. (4/10)

THOR (213, July). The current story-line winds up with the story of "The Demon Brigade" by Gerry Conway and Len Wein, John Buscema and Vince Colletta. (4/10)

MARVEL'S GREATEST COMICS (43, July). "Klaw, The Murderous Master Of Sound" takes on The Fantastic Four in a story from #56, by Stan Lee and Jack Kirby. (4/10)

* * *

RINGO KID (21, July). (4/17)

CONAN THE BARBARIAN (28, July). An original Roy Thomas-John Buscema-Ernie Chua tour-de-force..."The Monster Of Zembabwei!" Cover printed in this issue. (4/17)

AVENGERS (113, July). The news of the romance between Wanda and The Vision is announced to the world and the world reacts in varying ways. The most dramatic is a group of fanatics who are determined to destroy the Vision, because they have a Frankenstein's monster complex aboutandroids. Script by Steve Englehart, pencils by Bob Brown, inks by Frank Bolle. (4/17)

HERO FOR HIRE (11, July). Cage uses his brain and grit to escape the death-trap Senor Muerte tossed him into, but is then betrayed back into his clutches for a showdown in Muerte's private Casino Of Hell. Plus, Phil Fox discovers Luke's secret past. Script by Steve Englehart, art by George Tuska and Billy Graham. (4/17)

RAWHIDE KID (113, July). (4/17)

TOMB OF DRACULA (10, July). "His Name Is Blade!" and he's a black vampire hunter who uses a wooden knife to rip apart vampires. He's the latest supporting character in this series. He's hunting Dracula on a boat named "The Michele"(after scripter Marv Wolfman's wife). Art by Gene Colan and Tom Palmer. (4/17)

AMAZING ADVENTURES (19, July). The War Of The Worlds continues with the saga of "The Sirens Of Seventh Avenue." Script and plot by Gerry Conway and Howie Chaykin, art by Chaykin and Frank McLaughlin. (4/17)

MARVEL FEATURE (10, July). Ant-Man winds up with an 11-page new story by Mike Friedrich, Craig Russell, and Frank Chiaramonte. A reprint rounds out the issue. Next issue The Thing begins a team-up style series. (4/17)

RED WOLF (8, July). "Hell On Wheels" pits the modern Red Wolf against a motorcycle gang. Script by Gardner Fox, art by Syd Shores. (4/17)

* * *

DRACULA LIVES! (2, 75¢). The origin of Dracula, a spectacular story by Marv Wolfman and Neal Adams. "The Terror That Stalked Castle Dracula" kept busy during World War Two, according to a story by Steve Gerber and Tony Isabella, illoed by Jim Starlin and Syd Shores. Then the Count meets "The Voodoo Queen Of New Orleans" in a story by Roy Thomas, Gene Colan and Dick Giordano. Plus reprints by Kida and Sinnott, and an article by Chris Claremont. Cover by Penalva. (4/17)

* * *

MY LOVE (24, July). (4/24)

FANTASTIC FOUR (136, July). Back to the fifties for the FF in"Rock Around The Cosmos!" The villain who sends them there? The Shaper Of Worlds (from The Hulk). Script by Gerry Conway from a Roy Thomas plot, art by John Buscema and Joe Sinnott. (4/24)

MARVEL TEAM-UP (11, July). Spider-Man joins up with The Inhumans to play "The Doomsday Gambit" in the last part of the Kang-Tomorrow Man war. Script by Gerry Conway and Len Wein, art by J m Mooney and Mike Esposito. (4/24)

(c) 1973 Marvel Comics Group

SGT. FURY (112, July). An original story by Gary Friedrich and Dick Ayers is scheduled. (4/24)

WEREWOLF BY NIGHT (7, July). The end of the circus story is "Ritual Of Blood" by Len Wein, Mike Ploog (layouts), and Jim Mooney. (4/24)

CAPTAIN MARVEL (27, July). The space epic continues, with the introduction of the final two titans -- Eros and Mentor. Script by Mike Friedrich, plot and art by Jim Starlin, inks by Pablo Marcos. (4/24)

CREATURES ON THE LOOSE (24, July). Thongor in "A Time Of Reckoning" by George Alec Effinger and Val Mayerik. (4/24)

FRANKENSTEIN (4, July). The monster in "The End Or The Beginning" by Gary Friedrich and Mike Ploog. (4/24)

KULL THE CONQUEROR (9, July). Kull takes on "The Scorpion God" in a story by Gerry Conway, Marie and John Severin. (4/24)

MARVEL PREMIERE (9, July). Beginning a two-part finale to Shuma-Gorath as Doc Strange becomes a cosmic series under the guiding hands of Steve Englehart and Frank Brunner, with inks by Ernie Chua. (4/24)

WARREN

Coming Comics

EERIE (48). Cover by San Julian. "Son Of Dracula" is this issue's installment of the Count's series. Script and art by Rich Buckler and Bill DuBay. Beginning next issue Maroto is scheduled to take over. A new Werewolf strip by Al Milgrom, Rich Buckler and Bill DuBay premieres, as does a Mummy series by Steve Skeates and Brocal. Dax in "The Sacrifice" by Len Wein and Esteban Maroto. "This Graveyard Is Not Deserted" by Don McGregor and Reed Crandall. Next issue a Crandall series based on Wells' "Time Machine" begins. (4/3)

* * *

Still no word on a very interesting development over at Warren. Maybe next time.

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LATE NEWS, ADDITIONS, ETC

Ross Andru is taking over Spider-Man. Gil Kane will do alternate issues of Marvel Team-Up (with Jim Mooney) and an unnamed artist will take over Doc Savage.

Congratulations to Joe & Karin Orlando on the birth of Joanne, their second daughter.

Anyone having trouble finding DC Comics at their newsstand is advised to contact Joe Scully, Independent News, 909 Third Avenue, New York, New York 10022.

Frankenstein will appear in the second issue of Monsters Unleashed.

Gunhawks becomes Gunhawk soon as Kid Cassidy gets killed off.

Warner Paperback Library will publish two UFO paperbacks.

The two WPL House Of Mystery paperbacks are set for release in May.

SWORD of SORCERY #1 -- This is DC's first venture into the field of sword and sorcery since the rather short-lived Nightmaster experiment. The writer for this issue was a perfect choice, for Denny O'Neil was also the scripter for Nightmaster. The art was by Howie Chaykin, who did a nice job. The choice of Fafhrd and The Gray Mouser was also perfect, for Leiber created an aura of swords, sorcery and comedy around them. The story moved and was paced well.

The first story tells about the meeting between the sorcerers Sheelba and Ningbaugle and our heroes, and the quest for a Mask of Death.

* * * * *

WAR OF THE WORLDS (Amazing Adventures #18) - Yet another in Marvel's series of barbarian characters. This time the locale is the future, not the past and the central character is a "Conan" type named Killraven, who seems to have a lust for killing. The story was based on Roy Thomas' ideas for a series, with the main plot and characters by Neal Adams. The art was done by Adams and Howie Chaykin. The actual dialog was by Gerry Conway and proved to be one of his best jobs...mainly because he didn't plot it.

The main story is that the Martians have returned after their first war with Earth (via War Of The Worlds by H.G. Wells) and this time have been successful in taking over the world. Adams' contribution to the art was good (though not his best). Chaykin's was pretty good, but his anatomy is off -- he tends to make stocky men and women with elongated waists.

In general, to paraphrase its cover blurb, it's power-packed, but far from startling.

* * * * *

DRACULA LIVES #1, Marvel's first new black & white mag. The issue starts off with a color painting by Boris (of Skywald fame, but that's where the book's resemblance to a Skywald mag ends). The stories inside are composed of three new Dracula stories and three Atlas reprints.

"A Poison Of The Blood" is the first offering and it takes place in modern day Manhattan. The story is the weakest plot of the three Draculas, probably because Conway wrote it. It features Drac becoming affected by a drug addict's blood. Colan's art seems better in black & white than color; too bad he wasn't given a better story to illustrate. The second story, "Suffer Not A Witch," takes place in Salem in 1691. Written by editor Roy Thomas, this story portrays Drac in a form different from the classics and gives you something to think about. The art by Alan Weiss and Dick Giordano is the best in this issue...especially the splash page. "To Walk Again In Daylight" is the best written story (kudos to Steve Gerber, Rich Buckler & Pablo Marcos) and finds Drac searching for a cure for his disease.

The other stories are a waste of time and space (but are probably needed to save money). The issue also contained an article about vampires on film by Marv Wolfman. (he should be writing Werewolf By Night)/ editor's note: he is!/

The magazine is well worth your support. Buy it!

* * * * *

CONAN #25. I liked the cover of this issue very much and I think it is one of the best things that Kane has done in some time.

This is John Buscema's first Conan art job and the only thing that I don't like about it is that he won't be doing the finished art on Fantastic Four anymore. The story was partially based on Howard's "Mirrors Of Tuzun Thune" and was a fairly good adaptation. This is probably my favorite issue to date, with the exception of "The Tower Of The Elephant" issue. And a note for those of you who feel that the code is too conservative -- look at all the blood on the cover.

* * * * *

RECOMMENDED READING:
Warlock #5...Doc Doom as a good guy.
Supernatural Thrillers #3...a great adaptation of "Valley Of The Worm"By Thomas and Kane.

ET AL

UNDERGROUNDS - - FANZINES

CONVENTIONS - - CLIPPINGS

TERRY OF THE PIRATES FOLDED on February 25th, 1973. The strip's current writer/artist George Wunder had decided to retire, and the syndicate declined to keep it going. George Evans had been assisting on the strip for some time, and now will be doing more work for National Comics. Ill health was among Wunder's reasons for retiring. The strip was created by Caniff in 1934.

* * *

THE GAZETTE gang are contemplating a new project: A bi-weekly paper containing a selection of humor strips. "The Menomonee Falls Guardian" will premiere in June of 1973 if they get about 730 people to order in advance. They don't want cash yet, but please let them know if you'd be interested in seeing a paper of that nature.

* * *

Alex Toth fans should keep an eye on the various "wild west" type of magazines on sale on your newsstand. Toth does covers regularly for some of them.

* * *

A word about a rather important project...The Who's Who Of American Comic Books. It will be a several volume work about the creative people behind the comics circa 1935 to 1968. The first volume lists over 600 writers,artists and editors from A-F. There will be a limited pre-publication sale of the first volume in soft-cover for $5.00. For additional details write: Jerry Bails, Publishing Editor, 487 Lakewood Blvd, Detroit, Mich. 48215.

* * *

James Sandusky will be tried for mail fraud on March 12, 1973 in Milwaukee. Several comics fans and zine editors (including Alan Light and James Van Hise) will appear as witnesses for the prosecution.

* * *

David Pascal is the subject of an exhibit of "Comics-Paintings" at the Graham Gallery, 1014 Madison Avenue, NY from February 28 to March 24. Pascal is the NY representative of the National Cartoonists' Society and the exhibit is probably worth visiting.

* * *

The Jan. 14th M*A*S*H featured Radar O'Reilly studying a copy of Doc Savage #1 or 2 (in Korea in 1953?!).

* * *

Superman, Batman, & Wonder Woman showed up on the February 28th Sonny & Cher Comedy Hour in the vamp sequence.

* * *

Dallas Con guests this summer will be Harlan Ellison, Bill Gaines, Burne Hogarth and Jerry Bails. It will be held on June 28th to July 1st. Tickets are $6 ($7.50 after April 1) from D-Con 73, Box 242, Lewisville, Texas 75067. Supporting memberships are $1.50.

* * *

Stan Lee dedicated a comic collection at the Northwestern U. library a while back. Clippings of an article on the event are available for Stamped, Self-Addressed Envelope from: Harry Broertjes, 1865 Sherman Avenue, Evanston, Illinois 60201.

* * *

Progress Report

The guests at this year's July Comic Art Convention will include keynote speaker Bob Kane, and guests of honor Russell Meyers, C.C. Beck, Russ Heath, Burne Hogarth, and Bill Gaines and the Mad crew.

Currently set exhibits include one of Jeff Jones art and one of Mac Raboy's golden age original art.

The program book will feature a cover by one of the above-named artists, but we're not saying who yet.

Membership prices for the con are: $7.00 for all five days (July 4th through 8th), $2.50 per day or supporting membership, and $7.50 for the luncheon, which is scheduled for Saturday the 7th. Beck will definitely be one of the luncheon guests.

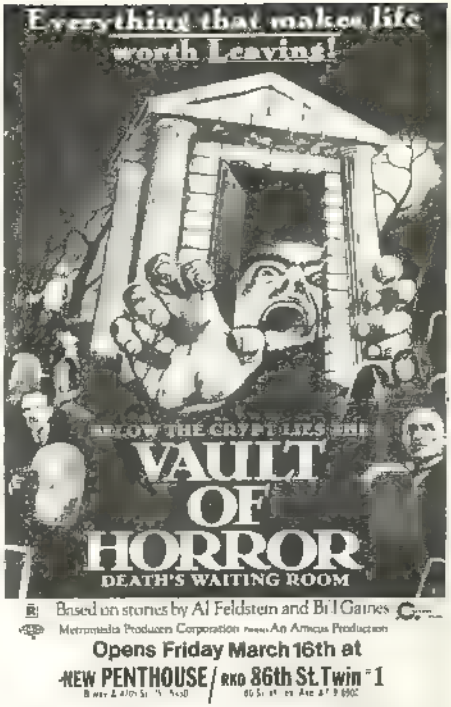
Perry Rhodan novels will be released bi-weekly during the summer. Dwight Decker is now doing some of the translating.

* * *

New Undergrounds coming up: Moondog #3 (Metzger), Insect Fear #3 (Spain), and Meef Comics (Sheridan and Schrier), all from Print Mint. Fantagor #4 (Corben), Mountain/High School Funnies (64 pages by Bob Silverberg), and Dopin' Dan #2 (Richards), all from Last-Gasp. Black And White Comix (Corben), Trots And Bonnie (Flenniken), and Funny Aminals #2, all from Apex Novelties. Paranoia (Todd) and All Duck Funnies from Company and Sons. Short Order Comix #1 (Art Spiegelman) and Cloud Comix from Head Imports. Swamp Fever #1 from Atlantis. And finally, Anomaly #4 by Corben and Strnad from Berkeley Comic Art Co.

* * *

Denny O'Neil dropped by Wilmington, Delaware's WILM radio station for a three-hour marathon talk & call-in show. Also appearing on the show were Dave Finger, Jim Harris and Jim Denver. The latter two teach a course on the history of comics at the Philadelphia College of Art.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NEW EC MOVIE

A new EC movie, "Vault Of Horror" is due to open here in New York City next week. The ad is on this page.

* * *

Star Trek will return, in the form of an animated series, reported producer Gene Roddenberry at the Star Trek Con. Trekkie Con attracted some 7,000 people according to one newspaper report.

* * *

WARP, the Broadway play that Neal Adams had designed costumes and scenery for, closed five days after opening thanks to horrendous critic's reviews. Most of the people in the comics industry who saw it enjoyed it very much.

* * *

Ace Books is re-issuing: The entire Carson of Venus series, The Land That Time Forgot, Out of Time's Abyss, Tarzan at the Earth's Core, The Moon Maid, The Moon Man, and The Lost Continent, all ERB titles.

A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

First off, the order of the day. Somewhere in this issue, you will find the final ballot for the 1973 Comic Art Fan Awards. Use it! Please be sure and fill out the ballot and return it to Don & Maggie. If you don't want to waste a stamp, send it to me when you next renew your sub and I'll forward it. I feel that it is very important that fans voice their opinions on quality vs. crap in the industry. If all of my subscribers vote (not to mention those of you who get this mag in your local bookstore every month) then last year's voting tally (700+) will be doubled, at least. So please, vote!

Reader Jay Beyda has suggested that I include news on the sf mags (Analog, Galaxy, Fantastic, etc.). If you are interested in that kind of material, I suggest you try Locus, TCR's opposite number for science fiction fandom. 12 bi-weekly issues for $3.00, mimeo, from Charles and Dena Brown, 3400 Ulloa Street, San Francisco, Calif. 94116.

Upcoming covers: Dave Cockrum (a very unusual Legion cover), Berni Wrightson, Jack Kirby, and Rich Buckler.

True FAT has been cancelled. The first issue was/will be the only one 'cause it wasn't working. Tony was too busy at Marvel to produce a complete package and I was too busy at National to finish it up on time. Nonetheless, it's out.

This issue was not out on the Second Saturday of the month, for those of you who keep track, 'cause it was test week at my school.

Duffy Vohland was so enthralled by last issue's sequel to the cover that he and Paty had done for #93, that he begged for the original. Point to the Gaff!

A word about dealers. Ed Summer took 30 copies of TCR #94 to sell at his store. They sold out within 48 hours. So anyone with a store should write and inquire about rates.

Etcetera #1 went into a second printing of 500 copies. #2 will be out in early April and work is coming along nicely on it.

About two weeks after I write this (or two weeks before you read it), TCR Publications is moving into its own offices, and I'll be able to live like a human being again for the first time in many moons. It creates quite a mess in a 16' x 9' room that also has to contain about 6,000 comics, a bed, and other essentials of life. The address for mail is still the same though.

As you may have noticed, the Gold Key section has vanished. It was not worth the effort to get that meager news section in my opinion, and you seem to have concured (only two complaints have been received about the missing section).

#100 draws ever closer, but my plans are still very tentative. I do want to do a double-size issue, but the costs will be prohibitive unless you people are willing to accept a double-price tag. Or perhaps there could be a souvenir 100th issue and every one else would receive a #101 with the same news section? Keep sending in your thoughts.

New feature next issue: "Fourth World Nuts" by Carl Gafford!

Beginning with this issue, due to rather obvious space limitations, Reviews and Fanzine Reviews will appear in alternate months. Due to the perversities of our production schedule, this allows Liam to do a New & Recommended for Etcetera one month, and then a Fanzine Reviews feature for TCR the next, even though they appear in the same month.

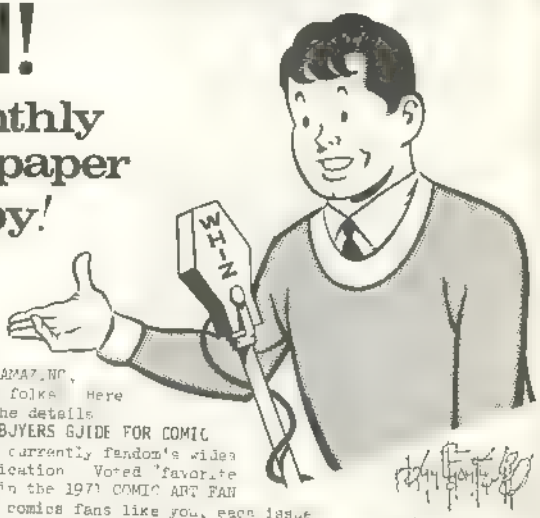
And now I throw the floor open to you people. I ask your ideas for new TCR magazines, or changes in our existing titles, or artists who you'd like to see do covers, or anything else you want to say. But please, write!

This issue's cover is a Ronn Sutton treatment of Fafhrd and The Gray Mouser. Ronn aided Howie Chaykin on an issue of Sword of Sorcery (among many others) and sent this in for your perusal. The characters are (c) 1973 by National Periodical Publications, Inc.

Circulation climbs like crazy! Last issue's publicized print run was 2,000 but the actual run was over 2,250 copies. #93's 2,000 copies have almost sold out. Thanks, people.

FLASH!

A twice-monthly fandom newspaper for 9¢ a copy!



SHAZAM! AMAZING! It's TRUE, folks! Here are all the details:

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BARRY SMITH
BERNI WRIGHTSON
NO AWARD
ABSTAIN

(#2) FAVORITE PRO WRITER:
STEVE ENGLEHART
JACK KIRBY
DENNY O'NEIL
ROY THOMAS
LEN WEIN
NO AWARD
ABSTAIN

(#3) FAVORITE PRO EDITOR:
JULIUS SCHWARTZ
ROY THOMAS
NO AWARD
ABSTAIN

(#4) FAVORITE PRO COMIC BOOK:
AVENGERS
CONAN
SWAMP THING
TARZAN
NO AWARD
ABSTAIN

(#5) FAVORITE NON-NEWSSTAND COMIC BOOK:
BADTIME STORIES ($5, Graphic Masters, Box 326, Great Neck, New York 11022)
FURTHER ADVENTURES...FREAK BROTHERS (65¢, Rip Off Press, POBox 14158, San Francisco, California 94114; ADULT)
FANTAGOR ($1.15, Rip Off or 90¢, Last Gasp Eco-Funnies, POBox 212, Berkeley, California 94704; ADULT)
THE MENOMONEE FALLS GAZETTE (40¢, Street Enterprises, POBox 255, Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin 53051)
PHASE ($3, Phase, 4314 Clarendon Road, Brooklyn, New York 11203)
SKULL (65¢, Last Gasp; ADULT)
NO AWARD
ABSTAIN

(#6) FAVORITE COMIC-BOOK STORY:
CONAN #20 ("The Black Hound Of Vengeance!")
GREEN LANTERN/GREEN ARROW #89 ("...And Through Him Save A World...")
THE NEW GODS #7 ("The Pact")
SWAMP THING #1 ("Dark Genesis")
NO AWARD
ABSTAIN

(#7) FAVORITE COMIC BOOK CHARACTER:
THE BATMAN
CONAN
GREEN ARROW
SPIDER-MAN
TARZAN
NO AWARD
ABSTAIN

(#8) FAVORITE FAN MAGAZINE:
THE BUYER'S GUIDE (23 copies for $2, Alan Light, DynaPubs, RR 1, Box 297, East Moline, Illinois 61244)
COMIC CRUSADER (75¢, Martin L. Griem, Box 132, Dedham, Massachusetts 02026)
THE COMIC READER (35¢, Paul Levitz, 393 East 58 Street, Brooklyn, New York 11203)
COMIXSCENE (50¢, Comixscene, Box 445, Wyomissing, Pennsylvania 19610)
GRAPHIC STORY WORLD (50¢, Richard Kyle, Box 16168, Long Beach, California 90806)
ROCKET'S BLAST COMICOLLECTOR ($1, Gordon B. Love, S.F.C.A., 9875 SW 212 Street, Miami, Florida 33157)
NO AWARD
ABSTAIN

(#9) FAVORITE FAN WRITER:
TOM FAGAN
TONY ISABELLA
PAUL LEVITZ
JAN STRNAD
DON & MAGGIE THOMPSON
NO AWARD
ABSTAIN

(#10) FAVORITE FAN ARTIST:
RICHARD CORBEN
JOHN FANTUCCIO
MARTIN GRIEM
DON NEWTON
NO AWARD
ABSTAIN

Please CIRCLE your choice.

Sign on this line:

_____

Type or print your name under your signature:

_____

Give the source of your ballot here:
THE COMIC READER

_____

If you are willing, put your year of birth here:

_____

Instructions

Mail all ballots on or before June 1, 1973 to:

1972 Comic Art Fan Awards
Don & Maggie Thompson
8786 Hendricks Road
Mentor, Ohio 44060 USA

Vote for nominees on the basis of work published in 1972 only. We suggest you look over the work again. Work in catagory #5 marked "Adult" is for adults only and must be accompanied by a signed statement of your age bracket if you order by mail.

Vote for only one item in each catagory; if you vote for more, your ballot will not be counted. Circle your choice. If you're a fan editor or club member, please circulate a word-for-word copy of this entire sheet. If you can't run it word for word, just tell others that they can get a copy by sending a dime or a self-addressed, stamped envelope to us and asking for the ballot.

There were 478 nominators this year, thanks to fan editors who circulated the ballot so widely. We hope to have even more voters on the final ballot. Any fan can vote! (Only once, of course; obvious box-stuffing will result in destruction of all concerned ballots.)

Results of the awards will be announced in many fanzines. (The July Comic Reader and the NY Con Program Packet, to name two --PL.) If you don't get newsletters publishing the outcome, you may get a copy of the results by sending a dime or a stamped, self-addressed envelope to: 1972 Comic Art Fan Award Results, Don & Maggie Thompson, 8786 Hendricks Road, Mentor, Ohio 44060. These will be mailed when results are sent to fanzines.

IMPORTANT: If you know all nominees in a category and feel that not one deserves to win an award for 1972, vote "No Award." If you do not know a category's nominees -- or feel that you shouldn't vote in the category for any reason -- vote "Abstain." If you send money or an envelope, please specify whether you want this ballot or the final results. If you want to vote with a personally made ballot, just write in your choice in each category. You needn't write out the whole thing.

The "year of your birth" category is an optional one; you do not have to fill it in. This data could be of value to researchers and, since this is the largest responsive poll of comics fandom, it is a good place to find out just how old the average fan is. (We may include personal questions of this nature on future polls and welcome suggestions for questions.)

--Don & Maggie Thompson

Bill Everett
DEAD AT 55

Bill Everett, the man who created The Sub-Mariner, died on February 27th, 1973, as a result of the latest in a series of heart attacks. He had been hospitalized for several months.

Everett started his career in comics with a strip entitled Skyrocket Steele, for Centaur. A short time later he created The Sub-Mariner for the first issue of Marvel Comics (later Marvel Mystery Comics). He also produced two other underwater super-heroes in the Golden Age of Comics -- The Fin and Hydroman.

After a stretch in the army, Everett returned to Marvel to resume work on his beloved Namor and remained there until several months before his death. During recent years he had shifted from drawing to coloring, but he had returned to The Sub-Mariner about eight months ago as writer and artist to revitalize the strip.

Everett is survived by his mother, two sons, a daughter, his sister, two grandsons, and Namor, his most famous creation. Contributions should be made to the William Blake Everett Memorial Fund, c/o Roosevelt Hospital in New York City.

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No. 90: Two left The 11th SOLD OUT from last Octo Yr.....35¢@

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No. 93: January 73 issue, usual news + features.....SOLD OUT!

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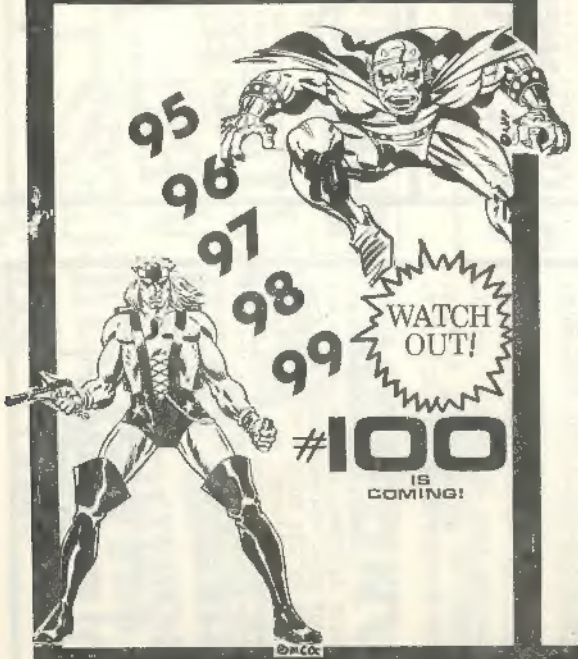

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